

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 935
By Bryson

A RESOLUTION to recognize Charles Knapper on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of service to the good people of the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Charles Knapper is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for ten years as Mayor of Nolensville, and he recently took a much deserved retirement on March 9, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Charles Knapper worked tirelessly with the Tennessee State Legislature and the Governor's Office to incorporate Nolensville, holding community meetings and conducting petition drives; and

WHEREAS, Nolensville was incorporated in 1996, and Charles Knapper was elected the first Mayor of Nolensville in October of 1996, with 75% of the vote; and

WHEREAS, spending countless hours in service to the public good, Mayor Knapper has worked assiduously to improve the quality of life of the residents of the Nolensville community; and

WHEREAS, Charles Knapper has performed his mayoral duties with remarkable dexterity and unprecedented devotion, and his efforts to excel have brought substantial benefits to Nolensville and to this great State; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Knapper has been a highly influential figure in the political, social, and civic lives of the citizens of Nolensville, and he has served his constituents in numerous capacities, always working diligently at his elected duties and expending the necessary effort to understand and solve complex issues; and

WHEREAS, the good people of the City of Nolensville evinced their great faith in the political and governmental capabilities of Charles Knapper by electing him as their Mayor, a position in which he has performed admirably; and

WHEREAS, a 1970 graduate of Franklin County High School, he attended and graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1974, and he graduated from Vanderbilt University in 1976 with a Master's degree as a Nurse Practitioner; and

WHEREAS, he also graduated from Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia in 1986, and he is currently a member of the Anesthesia Medical Group practice at Centennial Hospital; and

WHEREAS, a gentleman who truly appreciates the responsibilities, as well as the privileges of leadership and citizenship, Charles Knapper revitalized the homeowner's association and served as its president, and he has generously given his time and energies to many community, civic, and charitable organizations; and

WHEREAS, as Mayor of Nolensville, he established the Planning Commission, the Board of Zoning Appeals, and the Planning and Codes Enforcement Department, and he increased police protection with a part-time police department, which began in 1998; and

WHEREAS, seeking grants to establish and expand programs and services, he garnered a Park and Recreation grant, the HOMES grant, the Edward Byrne Memorial Grant, sign grants from TDOT, and the COPS Grant, a testament to his acumen and proficiency as Mayor; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, he was honored by the American Hometown Leaders Award Program, which is sponsored by the National Center for Small Town Communities, and he received a \$5,000 grant in September 1997; and

WHEREAS, his many professional and civic accomplishments aside, he is most thankful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Sherry, and their marriage has been blessed with four children, Brent Needham and wife Holly; Chris Knapper and wife Amber; Stephanie Johnson and husband Neal; and Mathew Knapper; he is also the proud grandparent of Zachary Johnson and Braden Needham; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Knapper exemplifies the spirit of volunteerism and commitment to excellence that are characteristic of all true Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Charles Knapper has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues and community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Mayor Charles F. Knapper upon his meritorious service to the citizens of the City of Nolensville and extend to him our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.